

MERCHANT'S ALARM SYSTEMS

Two Hundred Three Paterson Avenue
Wallington, New Jersey 07057
Phone (201) 779-4000
Fax (201) 779-7010

September 14, 1996

RECEIVED
SEP 19 1996
FCC-TEL-REC

Mr. William Catoh
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-152

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Mr. Caton:

Earlier this year, our United States Congress passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996. My family owned firm, which has been operating in New Jersey for the last sixty years, is in the business of providing alarm monitoring services.

It has come to my attention that the Bell Operating Companies are attempting to reduce section 275 to a meaningless technical provision. I am soliciting your support to interpret the legislature as it was intended, simply, to prohibit Bell Operating Companies from engaging in any activity in the alarm business for five years.

Enclosing correspondence from our Senator. He specifically states his "support of the alarm industry compromise preventing any of the regional Bell Operating Companies from further expansion into the alarm industry for five years".

A great deal of time and effort was put into the legislative process to pass the Telecommunications Competition and Deregulation Act of 1996.

Merchant's Alarm Systems strongly urges that the FCC rejects the Bell Companies' distorted interpretation of Section 275 and implement this act as intended by Congress.

Sincerely,

MERCHANT'S ALARM SYSTEMS

Walter G. Wargacki
Walter G. Wargacki
President

WGW/is

enclosures(2)

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FRANK R. LAUTENBERG
NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEES:
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ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
SMALL BUSINESS
HELSINKI COMMISSION

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510-3002

December 20, 1995

Mr. Walter Wargacki
Merchants Alarm Systems
203 Paterson Avenue
Wallington, New Jersey 07057-1394

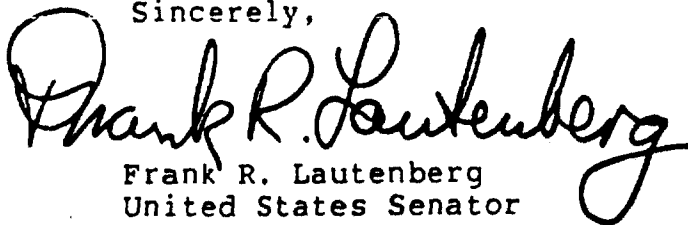
Dear Mr. Wargacki:

I am writing to update you on the status of the burglar and fire alarm provisions in the conference report to the Telecommunications Competition and Deregulation Act of 1995. As you may know, House and Senate conferees working on this legislation have tentatively agreed to allow Ameritech to continue to purchase alarm companies during what would otherwise be a five-year delay before regional Bells would be permitted to compete in the alarm business.

I understand that your industry is very concerned about this development. In order to express my support for a five year waiting period before any regional Bell operating company (RBOC) is allowed into the alarm industry, I have sent the enclosed letter to Senator Hollings, the Ranking member of the Commerce Committee.

I am hopeful that the conferees will reconsider the alarm provision before the conference is completed. Please be assured that I will continue to work to ensure that RBOCs are not allowed to dominate the alarm industry.

Sincerely,


Frank R. Lautenberg
United States Senator

FRL/jcb
Enclosure

REPLY TO:

□ 506 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3002
(202) 224-4744

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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3002

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December 14, 1995

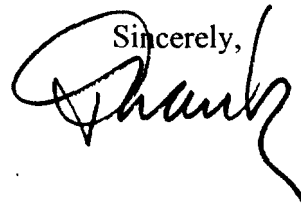
The Honorable Ernest F. Hollings
Ranking Member
Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation
125 Russell Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Fritz:

I am writing to you regarding the burglar and fire alarm industry provisions contained in the conference report to the Telecommunications Competition and Deregulation Act. I am concerned about the proposed agreement that would impose a five-year delay on regional Bell operating companies (RBOCs) before they would be permitted to enter this market, but would exempt Ameritech from this delay.

I understand that the telecommunications bill is designed to promote competition but I would hope that the bill we pass will not have the effect of forcing independent alarm companies out of business. In order to avoid this, I support the alarm industry compromise position which would allow Ameritech to keep its current alarm company acquisitions but prevent any of the regional Bell operating companies from further expansion into the alarm industry for five years.

I respectfully request you and your fellow conferees to reconsider this portion of the conference report so that the independent alarm industry will have an opportunity to prepare for competition with the RBOCs. In the long run, consumers will benefit from having access to greater variety in the alarm industry.

Sincerely,


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